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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/823,039	04/13/2004	Sang Shuhua	POSIP.68349	4106

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EXAMINER

LANDRUM, EDWARD F

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/823,039

Applicant(s)

SHUHUA, SANG

Examiner

Edward F. Landrum

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 21 is objected to because of the following informalities: There are many grammatical errors throughout the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Lines 8 and 9 of claim 21 state: "characterized in that said rotatable sleeve is integrally mounted to and disposed within said rotatable sleeve". It is not understood the rotatable sleeve can be mounted to and located within itself.

Claim 21 recites the limitation "said rotatable member" in line 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Claim 1 is allowable for defining a blade clamping device comprising: a cylindrical rotatable sleeve with a proximal end having an aperture for a blade; a rotatable member mounted coaxially within the cylindrical rotatable sleeve and having a proximal end; a blade carrier mounted within the cylindrical rotatable sleeve and having a proximal end with a blade receiving slot and a distal end; an output shaft mounted to the distal end of

Art Unit: 3724

the blade carrier; a torsion spring; a guide groove radially and axially extending from an exterior of the blade carrier and communicating with the blade receiving slot; a locking member pivotally mounted in the guide groove on a pin; and a spiral surface disposed at the proximal end of the rotatable member, wherein the cylindrical rotatable sleeve is manipulatable rotationally between clamping and non-clamping positions where in the non-clamping position the aperture of the cylindrical rotatable sleeve is aligned with the blade receiving slot of the blade carrier, and wherefrom the cylindrical rotatable sleeve is biased back to a clamping configuration where the aperture is not aligned with the blade receiving slot which causes the proximal end of the cylindrical rotatable sleeve to engage the blade and the spiral surface of the rotatable member positively engages a curved surface of the locking member giving the locking member a tendency to rotate about the pin thereby causing the locking member to positively engage the blade in the blade carrier.

Kramer et al (U.S Patent No. 6,725,548), hereinafter Kramer, teaches a blade clamping device comprising (see Figure 1): a rotatable sleeve (59) with a hole for a blade; a rotatable member (56) mounted coaxially with the rotatable sleeve (59); a blade carrier (60 and 58) with a blade receiving slot (62); an output shaft (44) coupled to the distal end of the blade carrier (60 and 58); a torsion spring (54) for biasing the clamping device to an engaged position (Col. 4, lines 36-39); a guide groove (64 and 66) communicating with the blade receiving slot (62); a locking member (50) mounted in the guide groove (64 and 66); a spiral surface (76) disposed at the proximal end of the

rotatable member (56) wherein the locking member (50) is moved into the engaged position by the spiral surface (Col. 3, lines 55-58).

Huggins et al (U.S Patent No. 6,533,291) teaches (see Figures 2 and 3) a pivotally attached locking member (78) in a quick-release clamping mechanism that is substantially teardrop-shaped shaped and positionable between a first position (see Figure 3) and a second position (see Figure 2) by the insertion of the tool to be clamped (Col. 5, lines 6-27).

Wright (U.S Patent No. 5,340,129) teaches (see Figures 3 and 6) a rotatable sleeve for a quick release mechanism where the proximal end comes in contact with the blade when the aperture of the rotatable sleeve is in a non-aligned position.

While it is obvious to modify Kramer to incorporate the teachings of Huggins to pivotally connect the locking member it would be improper hindsight to modify Kramer to incorporate the teachings of Wright as the rotatable sleeve of Kramer is not designed to make any contact with the blade, as the blade carrier of Kramer passes entirely through the rotatable sleeve which is unlike the design of the current invention.

5. Claims 2-20 depend on claim 1 and are therefore considered allowable.
6. Claim 21 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward F. Landrum whose telephone number is 571-272-5567. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EFL
12/1/2006



BOYER D. ASHLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER